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TAGS: MOPS, PARM
SUBJECT: SOVIET REACTION TO SECRETARY HAIG'S
- BERLIN SPEECH AND THE MYCOTOXIN CHARGE
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1. SUMMARY: TASS HAS AGAIN CRITICIZED SECRETARY HAIG'S SPEECH IN BERLIN AND THE "SLANDEROUS" CHARGE OF SOVIET AND ALLIED USE OF CW IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND AFGHANISTAN. TASS ALSO TOOK TO TASK FRG FONMIN GENSCHER FOR "PLAYING UP TO HAIG," AND PRAVDA CRITICIZED HIM FOR ACCOMPANYING THE SECRETARY TO BERLIN. PRAVDA AND SOVIET TV NEWS EMPHASIZED THE DEMONSTRATIONS IN BERLIN DURING THE SECRETARY'S VISIT. PRAVDA PREDICTABLY CALLED THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH "COLD WAR" LANGUAGE. END SUMMARY.
2. A TASS ITEM FROM WASHINGTON ON THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH, CARRIED IN THE SEPTEMBER 15 "TRUD," REPEATS



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MOST OF THE THEMES IN THE SEPTEMBER 13 TASS DISPATCH FROM NEW YORK (REFTEL), AND ADDS THAT:

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-- THE U.S. "HAMPERS THE CONCLUSION" OF A CW BAN;

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-- SECRETARY HAIG'S "SLANDEROUS ALLEGATION" ON SOVIET USE OF CW IS AIMED ONLY AT DISTRACTING ATTENTION FROM U.S. PREPARATIONS FOR CHEMICAL WARFARE; AND

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-- GENSCHER IS "OBVIOUSLY PLAYING UP TO HAIG;" HE RECENTLY PROPOSED A "LINKAGE" BETWEEN THE "PROBLEM OF NEUTRON WEAPONS" AND THAT OF "SOVIET TANK SUPERIORITY AND SOVIET CW."

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3. PRAVDA SEPTEMBER 15, AND SOVIET TV EVENING NEWS SEPTEMBER 14, HIGHLIGHTED THE DEMONSTRATIONS IN BERLIN DURING THE SECRETARY'S VISIT, BUT MADE NO MENTION OF THE MYCOTOXIN CHARGE. PRAVDA WENT ON TO DESCRIBE THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH AS A

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PRESENTATION OF THE "AMERICAN POLICY OF MILITARY PREPARATION." ACCORDING TO PRAVDA, THE SPEECH WAS "CRAMMED WITH COLD WAR PHRASEOLOGY AND CONTAINED SLANDEROUS ATTACKS" ON SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY. PRAVDA NOTED THAT GENSCHER ACCOMPANIED THE SECRETARY TO BERLIN, "CONTRARY TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT."

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4. TASS ENGLISH SEPTEMBER 14 REPLAYED A BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY (AFGHAN) REPORT WHICH CONTENDED THAT THE U.S. DOES NOT HAVE THE "LEAST DOCUMENT, TESTIMONY, AND EVIDENCE" TO PROVE CW USE IN AFGHANISTAN. BAKHTAR ASSERTED THAT ONLY THE "BANDITS" HAVE CW WEAPONS, MADE IN THE U.S., AND THAT SCHOOL GIRLS IN KABUL WERE POISONED LAST YEAR WITH U.S.-MADE GAS. IT CHARACTERIZED SECRETARY HAIG AS A MILITARY MAN DRESSED IN "DIPLOMATIC MANTLE" WHO TRIES TO EMPLOY "MARSHAL BRAGGINGS" IN DIPLOMACY. WE HAVE NOT YET SEEN THIS PIECE CARRIED IN THE SOVIET PRESS.

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5. FOR KABUL: MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. MCCALL

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